

SUMMER 2023

onmission

NEWS FROM CHILD EVANGELISM FELLOWSHIP® IN EUROPE



2022 European

ANNUAL REPORT



PLUS:
SHORTFALL
REGIONAL NEWS
EDUCATION UPDATE

Last year after a summer camp in Central Europe, a child who attended was asked, "What would you say to the person who helped you come to camp." She replied, *"I am so thankful that you did not forget about us. May God bless you for what you are doing. Please don't stop giving children the opportunity to learn about God."*

"Out of the mouth of babes...." What great words of wisdom, and a wonderful challenge from a 9-year-old girl!

In CEF we do not want to stop giving children the opportunity to learn about God. As I looked back over our statistical report for 2022, I realised that we are doing this in 3D! **Directly, Digitally** and through **Distribution**.

The Apostle Paul said in Romans 10:14, *"And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard?"* There are 160 million children in Europe who will not believe in Him, if they do not hear of Him.

In this special edition of *onmission*, we want to praise God together for the children who heard the Gospel message directly, digitally or through distribution, but we also want to look behind those numbers and praise God for your input. We know that behind every child reached with the Gospel there was an army of believers praying and giving so that the Gospel would be taken across Europe.

In Mark 16:15 the Lord Jesus commands us to go: *"Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature."*

And we certainly will not forget the children.

Thank you for your vital part in this ministry.





MEASURING THE **IMPACT** OF THE **MINISTRY**

As we look at how gracious God has been to the ministry of *Child Evangelism Fellowship*® in Europe this past year, we are grateful to have reached more boys and girls than ever before.

More children were reached in face-to-face ministry, more children were reached through online and digital means and more children were reached through "paper missionaries"—Gospel literature.

In the next few pages, you'll read the stories behind the numbers. Praise God with us for the impact His truth has in the lives of children.

2022

AT A GLANCE

GOOD NEWS CLUBS

9,843

5-DAY CLUBS

3,497

HOLIDAY PARTY CLUBS

2,245

CHRISTMAS PARTY CLUBS

14,786

CAMPS

736

TEACHERS TRAINED

81,919

PRAYER PARTNERS

41,605

NATIONAL MISSIONARIES

90.7%

EXPATRIATE MISSIONARIES

9.3%





DIRECT MINISTRY

After finishing lessons on the life of Joseph in GNC, Jakov, a ten-year-old boy, suddenly said *"Mirushka, I have heard the story of Joseph so many times, but no one told me about what you told me."* His parents read the scriptures to him and now he reads them himself—as he grows, he understands more. It reminded me of the importance of speaking God's word directly to children. This family has a history with CEF Montenegro. As a little girl, his mother was involved in Bible correspondence course, then when active ministry began, she was one of the first girls at the GNC. Later, she attended the first TCE 1 course. Afterwards she volunteered at camps. Now she is married to a Christian and their children come to GNC. Direct ministry with children is of great importance for children and God's Kingdom.

Miruška Čmelik, Montenegro



Jennifer, wearing a new necklace with a silver cross, is pictured with the CEF worker. She wanted a necklace like this for a long time. If you ask her, "Why this necklace?", she answers, *"Because the cross of Jesus Christ has become important to me and I would like to show others that I belong to Jesus!"* Through a classmate, Jennifer came to the Good News Club in her village and heard more about the Gospel. She continues to attend the Girls Only Club (a Bible club for teenage girls). Jennifer is one of the many children in the Netherlands reached with the precious Word of God this past season. Testimonies like this are extremely valuable and we cherish them.



DIRECT MINISTRY 10 YEAR COMPARISON

Number of children reached

2012
656,306

2017
759,808

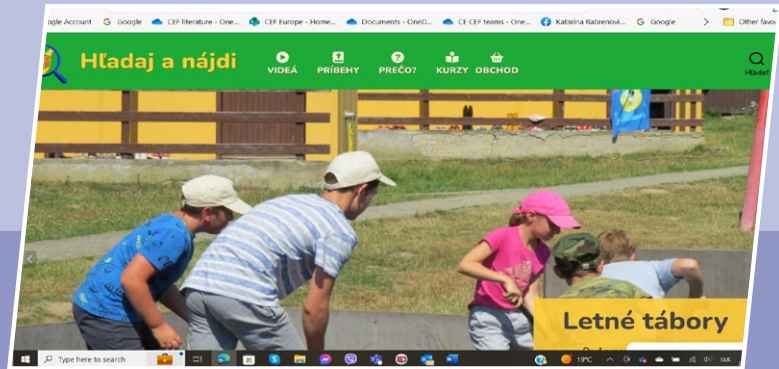
2022
983,333



DIGITAL MINISTRY

I am grateful to the Lord for the ministry of CEF in our country. When I was a teenager, the CEF worker "Uncle Jožko" started meeting with us in our church. That's where I received Jesus and learned the basics for Christian living. If it wasn't for "Uncle Jožko", where would I be today? Many of us came to the Lord through the CEF teen meetings. Many years later, I also direct my children to the Lord Jesus. Since we live abroad, they cannot attend Good News Clubs in our language so I am grateful to the Lord for the CEF website "Hľadaj a najdi—Look and Find". My children can learn more about Jesus and grow in their Christian life because of this website.

Thankful mom from Slovakia



In 2021, CEF of Greece bought ten laptop computers and uploaded onto each one their Bible videos—one hundred, 20-minute videos from Genesis all the way through the Life of Jesus. The computers were given to ten different Roma settlements where CEF workers were not allowed (due to COVID-19 quarantine) and there was no electricity or internet. Using the computers, Christian volunteers in each settlement could show the videos to hundreds of children every day.

Paul (pastor of a large church): "Your videos were a tremendous help for our children. During the quarantine your videos helped us to teach our children during family worship and in our Sunday school ministry."

Constantine (10 years old): "I saw you on TV! You were teaching about David defeating Goliath. God helped him to do that. I used to be afraid of bullies in my school, but now I know that God is with me."

Also, a Christmas Together video was produced and sent to all the public schools in Greece along with 5.000 e-mails.

At Easter nine videos were produced and shown every day during the Holy Week at a TV station which broadcasts to all Northern Greece.



DIGITAL MINISTRY

10 YEAR COMPARISON

Number of children reached





DISTRIBUTION

In December 2022, we distributed 200,000 copies of *The Best Celebration Ever* booklet and 200,000 copies of the *Do You Wonder Why?* (DYWW) booklet to various postal addresses in Britain. Additionally, in April 2023, they sent 135,000 copies of the *Meet the King!* booklet and 135,000 copies of the DYWW booklet to the same locations.

The encouragement from this campaign was through the emails and letters we received from delighted parents inquiring about the Postal Bible Club, which offers their children the opportunity to join the club and receive monthly Bible lessons.

One parent shared their experience, stating, "We received the Bible club booklet, and my daughter absolutely loves it. She is 10 years old, goes to Sunday school and would love to belong to the Bible club."



Cristina first heard the Gospel at school when a CEF worker distributed the *Meet the King!* booklet to her class. She wanted to learn more about God and so enrolled in the Bible correspondence course. CEF literature impacted Cristina's childhood and enabled her to learn more about God and living the Christian life.

She and her husband now serve as CEF workers in that same area. They want to give children the opportunity to hear the message of Salvation from a young age. Often when distributing Gospel literature, Cristina reminds others of the impact it had on her life, telling them it is definitely worth it. You just don't know how God will use it!

DISTRIBUTION

10 YEAR COMPARISON

Number of Gospel pieces given to children

2012
886,168



2017
903,950

2022
2,719,340



SHORTFALL

A LIFE WELL LIVED



Gulnora's life was lived to the glory of God. When she trusted in the Lord Jesus Christ and was baptised, she committed her life to Him and to the evangelism of children. Living in Tajikistan, this was not an easy decision, but one that she stayed faithful to all her life.

Those who prayed for and supported Gulnora directly or through the shortfall project rejoice in knowing approximately 1,000 children and teenagers were reached for the Lord, many of whom grew up to be pastors and missionaries.

Gulnora went to be with the Lord in May 2023. We certainly wouldn't have chosen this, but we do trust that God always knows what He is doing. We are reminded that the need to take the Gospel to children is urgent. When such a believer as Gulnora is committed to sharing the Gospel in a country where financial resources for missions are limited, then we need to do all that we can to support such workers.

The shortfall project has been supporting workers across Europe over the years and this has meant that those in the most challenging

of countries are able to continue their ministry.

We are praying and looking for those who want to give for missions but are interested in knowing where the greatest need is—wherever that might be across Europe. Please pray with us!

If you would like to learn more about supporting or promoting workers in Europe so that children can be reached with the Gospel for the glory of God please contact Harry at Harry.Robinson@cefeurope.org.

REGIONAL NEWS

Many thanks

We are thankful to God for the ministry of **Stephen and Pam Garrett** in CEF of Europe. Their godly attitude and servant leadership blessed the leaders, workers and many children and teenagers in southwest Europe for 11 years. Over the last months God has been leading them to serve Him closer to home and we know that they will impact many lives in their new ministry too! We praise God for godly leaders and while we are sorry to say goodbye, we know that God will continue to use them and bless many through them



as they serve in pastoral ministry. Stephen will continue to serve on the CEF of Europe executive board where we really appreciate his wisdom and pastoral care.

A warm welcome

How do you serve God in missions when He has given you a clear calling to reach the nations so that God will be glorified all around the world?

Harry and Wendy Robinson believe that God has given them the opportunity to do this while serving in their local church



missions programme, with One Another Ministries and in being a blessing to workers in CEF of Europe. They seek resources for workers and offer care and encouragement from God's Word.

Harry has recently been appointed CEF of Europe Shortfall Coordinator and in this position continues to be a blessing to many workers in Europe.

We welcome Harry to this new role in CEF of Europe and continue to pray that God will use Harry and Wendy to be a wonderful blessing and encouragement to many missionaries.

THE BLESSINGS OF TRAINING

Teaching Children Effectively™

I never stopped to consider how important it is for children to be saved. I thought, they will understand when they grow up and I don't need to teach them about this need from the Bible when they are so young. I was really challenged about opening a *Good News Club* for the children in my street and have decided to begin this ministry as an outreach of my local church. This course has enriched my life in so many ways—it has been like a compass—showing me the way I need to go. What a blessing!

Sarah



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CHILD EVANGELISM
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onmission

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This course helped me in a wonderful way. The classes on the message of salvation were especially challenging for my own life and really helped me to understand and know how to share this Good News with children in an appropriate and relevant way. Likewise, the classes on counselling a child for salvation helped me to realise the great responsibility we have as teachers to let children know they too can trust in the Lord Jesus and to be prepared and ready to help them. I have taken all this teaching to heart and with the help of the Holy Spirit plan to put it into practice as doors of opportunity open up.

Estera

One training leads to another!

I never thought I'd do something like this! At the Junior Youth Challenge leader's course, I heard about the *Good News Club* and I wanted to take the TCE 1 course so I could learn more. I enrolled and the materials arrived at the end of November. As I opened the package my attention was especially drawn to the *Emmanuel* Christmas lesson, I said to myself, "I have to do something!" I attended the online CEF Christmas Club training. The Lord put it on my heart to invite neighbourhood children into my home—I had the joy to have children and their parents! We will continue these meetings and I want to encourage all of you who take the CEF training to try—what we learn really works! We just need the courage to try.

Lidia

Children's Ministry Leadership Course 2023

It is a great encouragement to be here in this place and to be exposed every day to God's truths that equip us for our future ministry with children. It is wonderful to be surrounded by people from different countries who share a common goal, which is to reach children for Christ. I am grateful for all the professors, for their dedication in serving us and also for the entire team that is here. How wonderful it is when every day I see people who really live the gospel in their lives. My prayer is that these three months will be for our spiritual building and that the Lord will change us, shape and form our hearts.

Zuska